ANDR
APR
25

10

Rev^d Amos A. Phelps

Taunton

Mass.

Single

Rec^d Charleston
April 19^th 1832

Phillips

The other circumstance is that he left town in haste & rather a perturbed state of mind. This may account for his leaving without paying for the meal, & not leaving as much money as his board at Mrs W.'s amounted to. I still hope that he will make a satisfactory explanation. It is useless for him to say the matter is not as Pratt stated it, as it is stated in this letter. The facts are fully attested. —— I should think it best to give him some further time to make some explanations, before any thing is done. But if he cannot satisfactorily exculpate himself, I am really at a loss to know what course should be pursued. Whether it should be made a matter of church discipline I cannot say. Sometimes I feel that it ought not; & at others I feel it ought. You can consult others who are more capable of expressing an opinion. —— Should the charge against him be sustained, I doubt whether the board of F. C. Society will retain him on their list, if the circumstance were known to them. —— I do hope that P. will extricate himself. I am exceedingly grieved & utterly confounded by this affair. I never had any suspicions before of foul play. And I can't persuade myself now, that the true state of the case is in reality as the circumstances seem to develope it. Still, I must say, "it looks very dark". —— I think I shall write to him & urge him to explain himself if he can do it. —— There is no personal difference between him & Pratt. —— I learnt quite recently that you expect to preach as a candidate in Baltic. I hope you will go. You will find better materials there than in Fl. If you do go, I hope to see you there some time or other. —— My love to Mrs Phelps. Yours &c

Benj. Schneider.

E. E. Pratt said he would write to you. I go to Pelham N. H. to attend a vacation

to do this so that the student, whose mind she gave him the liberty of burning, might find some wood ready on his return, whom she daily expected. He promised to come that day & came it. How he could make this promise, when he was expecting to leave town in a very short time, ~~xxx~~ I cannot conceive. Perhaps he intended to burn the wood before he left, short as the time was. At any rate, he left without burning the wood, or paying for that which he consumed. Just before he left the town Pratt asked him whether he had paid Mrs N. for her board. He said no; & left 50 cts with him to pay her. He Pratt delivered the money to her; but found that his board had amounted to 4 shillings instead of 50 cts. Before he left Mrs Chandler he told them he was going to Boston & should return in a day or so. They asked him particularly as they depended on him for the daring of some work. Mrs Chandler & her daughter both say that he told them he would return soon. And they were disappointed when he did not return. What could be his object in saying he would return, when he was making all this preparations to leave town, I am unable to conjecture. These I believe are the principal circumstances of the case. I must confess it wears a dark aspect. And unless Richards can explain it to some degree of satisfaction, I do not see how he can escape the charge of falsehood. And yet I can see no object which he could have had in view in making such unmeans statements. There are two palliating circumstances which I can think of: viz. he found it more expensive here than he anticipated, & this circumstance threw him into some agitation In such an agitated state of mind I can conceive how he might have acted as he did. Still it looks improbable.

8

Andover April 19th 1832

Dear Brother,

I hasten to reply to your letter. I will give you a recital of the circumstances of the matter as they have been related to me. When Richards came here he agreed with Mrs Upton to board him at $1.75 pr week. After he had been there a few days, finding that he was in indigent circumstances, she recommended him to a Mrs Chandlers family, who wished to get a student to do some chores, offering him his board. He concluded to accept the offer. While at Mrs Uptons she gave him the privilege of burning a little wood which belonged to a student (then absent) with whom he was to room, on the condition that he would satisfy this student for the wood, & pay for the sawing of it (for it had been sawed already. He consumed the wood on this condition. On the Monday after his arrival he went to Mrs Uptons early in the morning, before breakfast, for his trunk. Mrs Upton asked him whether he was going to board at Mrs Chandlers; "yes, said he, & I like very well" She supposed he had removed his trunk to Mrs Chandlers; but he took it to the tavern to be sent on in the stage. He offered to pay her for his board, but not being able to make the change, it was not done. Before he left her she reminded him of his promise in regard to the wood above mentioned. He said he would see to it; & likewise said he would come that day (Monday) & saw some wood, as much as would pay for the sawing of that which he had consumed. Mrs Upton wished him